

THE POULTRY MESSENGER

& WESTERN FRUIT-GROWER.

Vol. 2.

AURELIA, IOWA, JUNE, 1896.

No. 4

Barred Plymouth Rocks.

Do You Want Eggs

For hatching from good birds of standard quality and large size? My yards are mated to give satisfaction. Send in your order now. Eggs \$1.50 per setting.

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Des Moines Valley Poultry Yards

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Eggs from high class Light Brahmas, P. Cochins, Barred P. Rocks, R. C. B. Leghorns and Black Minorcas. Circular free.

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Kills all mites, bed bugs, fleas, etc., about the poultry house and all body lice on the fowls, by simply painting it on the roosts and dropping boards with an ordinary paint brush. Circulars with testimonials, free.

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One-half gal 50c; 1 gal. 75c; 5 gal. \$3.

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For hatching from high-scoring, thoroughbred S. C. Brown Leghorns, S. and Golden Wyandottes, B. Ply. Rocks and Mammoth Pekin Ducks, \$1.25 per 13.

Also very fine well rooted strawberry plants of the best varieties. Price, 50 cents per 100 plants. Everything first class. Write for new catalogue.

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Breeders of thoroughbred Silver Laced Wyandottes, Light Brahmas, Single Comb Brown Leghorns, Single Comb White Leghorns, Pekin Ducks and Bronze Turkeys. Send for catalogue. Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

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Plymouth Rocks,

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Breeder of

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No better stock anywhere. Write for description and prices.

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The most valuable treatise on Roup, Sorehead, diphtheritic sore throat, Canker mouth, Catarrh, etc., ever written. Absolutely free. Send 3 cents in stamps to pay postage.

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Buff Wyandottes EXCLUSIVELY. Three Grand Pens

Of the best laying strains in existence. Eggs \$2 per 13, three settings for \$5. No further discount.

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The cockeral arrived all o. k. Don't think I could have found a bird anywhere to suit me any better. Sent him over to St. Louis, won 1st.

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Highest Award
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says: "If I were going to buy for myself I would give the Von Culin the preference." Book Incubation, 5 cts.
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High
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Fowls

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To hatch 80 per cent of the fresh and fertile eggs. Hundreds of recent testimonials! Have this year (1896) issued our Eleventh Annual Poultry Guide and Combined Catalogue in one valuable book.

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This 148-page, fully illustrated Poultry Guide tells you about profits in poultry; about hatching eggs with machines; about brooding chicks without hens. We have for sale sixteen popular kinds of thoroughbred fowls; also full line of Poultry Supplies—anything you want. Price of Guide, 10 cents in stamps—worth one dollar. Address, RELIABLE INCUBATOR AND BROODER CO., Quincy, Ill.

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SILVER LACED WYANDOTTES,

....AND....

S. C. Brown Leghorns,

Are from the

Best Strains in America.

Eighteen years experience enables me to Mate For Best Results. Eggs this season \$2.00 for 15. My circular shows the most beautiful cut of a pullet I ever saw. Address

O. P. GREER, Bourbon, Indiana.

Nonpareil Poultry Yards, La Salle, Illinois.

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LEGHORNS,

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No eggs for sale this season. Stock for sale in the fall, with score cards.

BARRED PLYMOUTH * ROCKS

N. S. Beardsley Strain. Exclusively.

Large Frame
Fine Barring

Eggs \$2.00 per Sitting. No Stock for sale.

Care of First National Bank.
Yards at 653 Burr Street.

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You Should Take the

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A 20-page poultry paper devoted to poultry, pigeons, pet stock, diseases, remedies, etc. A paper that every breeder should have to refer to, only 50 cts a year. Sample copy, 6 cents.

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The oldest, cheapest, largest and best paper published, entirely devoted to the interest of the game fancier, breeder and cocker. Only 50 cents a year. Sample copy, 6 cents.

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Improved Chester Whites

BY MAIL.



Not the whole hog, but photographs of the very individual we offer you. Send us a description of what you want and we will send you a photograph of what we think will suit you. If you wish to purchase, we will send them free to be returned with order

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Complete set, with full instructions, post-paid, on receipt of \$2.50. 28 p. Capon Book free for 2c. stamp. Poultry Marker 25c. Roup Syringe, 10c.

Gape-Worm Extractor, 25c. Remit by Money-Order or register'd letter.
G. P. PILLING & SON,
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115 S. 11th St., Phila., Pa.

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RUTHERFORD BROS.

BREEDERS OF

* White Wonders.

The hardiest of all fowls, and the best general purpose breed for the north. One or two good cockerels for sale at \$3 each.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS,

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What a Lot of Eggs

the hens lay when fed on Green Cut Bone. With a dozen hens



MANN'S

Green

Bone Cutter

Will pay for itself in a short time in the increase of eggs.



Five Dollars buys one

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180 Highest Awards Received.

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SIMPLEX HATCHER & BROODER

combined. The most Perfect Incubator Made. Hatches every egg that a hen could hatch; Regulates itself automatically; Reduces the cost of poultry raising to a minimum. Send for Illus. Catalogue. Simplex Manuf'g Co., Quincy, Ill.



HATCH CHICKENS BY STEAM

With the MODEL

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Simple, Perfect, Self-Regulating. Thousands in successful operation. Guaranteed to hatch a larger percentage of fertile eggs at less cost than any other Hatcher. Lowest priced first-class Hatcher made. GEO. H. STAHL, 114 to 122 S. 6th St., Quincy, Ill.



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Practical Breeds.

Any of the full bloods are practical breeds of fowls if handled in accordance with methods born of good sense and experience; and not one of them will be of practical worth if not so treated. The comparative extent of the practical qualities of breeds is greatly overestimated. In this respect there is not the difference between them which many people have allowed themselves to believe. The lack of the practical qualities which so many find wanting in their flocks is more often due to improper treatment than to any inherent failing in the breed.

Beginners in poultry culture usually waste a good deal of time in searching for a breed which will furnish proof of possessing these much desired practical qualities in greater degree than any other. They are continually changing breeds, buying and discarding, year after year, in a fruitless search after something which will fully come up to their ideal as to what a practical fowl should be. Perhaps they start with the Plymouth Rocks, but at the end of a year they hear of some old breeder who has obtained what appears to them remarkable results from the Light Brahmas, and so the Plymouth Rocks are disposed of and the Light Brahmas take their place. But the change is not attended with the advantages which were expected, and at the end of a year the Light Brahmas are in as bad repute as were the Plymouth Rocks. These people are slow to learn the fact that the fault is with themselves and not with the breed. Their ill success is to be charged to a lack of knowledge and experience which is necessary in order to obtain the best results from any breed.

It is not denied that it is easier for beginners to succeed with some breeds than others. But it is a grave mistake to suppose that a person who has made a total failure with one breed can discard it and obtain results from another

closely approaching those of breeders who have devoted many years of study and labor to this business. Poultrymen of experience are obtaining first-class results from all the breeds, and this is simply because they have steadily kept at their task until they have overcome the obstacles by which so many beginners are led to this constant changing. The best thing which those who are new to the business can do for themselves is to select some one of the more popular breeds and make up their minds to camp alongside of it until they have made it pay them a reasonable profit. By that time the at first hidden practical qualities will be in full sight, and the owner will be properly equipped for bringing these same qualities out of some other breed for which he can give an intelligent reason for exchanging that with which he has had his first experience. The breeder must not be deficient in practical qualities himself if he entertains the hope of developing those of his fowls.

Summer Eggs.

The tendency appears to be to undervalue the good summer layers. We hear a great deal about winter laying qualities of the various breeds, but seldom anything about them as summer layers. Eggs are so low priced in summer as to cause many to believe that there is no profit in them. It requires very little argument to show that this is a mistake. The profit in the summer eggs, even at the low price of eight and ten cents a dozen, is very little short of that on the eggs obtained during the cold weather of winter.

In the first place a flock of hens will lay nearly double the quantity of eggs in summer that they will in winter. This writer has at present a pen of Langshan hens each of which lays an egg every day, and they have kept this up without a single break for nearly four weeks. We never had hens to lay

that way in winter, and we are making no calculations upon ever having them to do it. The eggs in summer are produced at very little expense in the way of feed, the hens getting almost their entire living on the range. In fact the surest way not to get eggs at this time is to put them on a steady grain ration, such as would be right and proper in winter. Selling the eggs is a good deal like finding ten cent pieces in the road. There is no call for us to walk over them simply because they are ten cent pieces and not quarters.

Counting the cost of labor, feed, and expensive housing required for the production of eggs in winter, there would be no profit in them at ten cents a dozen. It would be different perhaps if we could get as many of them as we do in summer, but nobody figures upon doing that. Shall we say that eggs at twenty-five cents in winter do not leave any more dollars in the pockets of the poultryman than they do at ten cents in summer. We believe it. We have never kept an exact account which would enable us to speak definitely upon the point, but have planned to do so in the near future. Summer eggs cost next to nothing, either in time, labor or money. Let the reader reflect what little provision would have to be made for the care of a flock, how cheap and simple the accommodations, if the requirements necessary to maintain it in a healthy and productive condition during the winter, were left out of the question. All this additional labor and expense must be charged up against the eggs obtained in winter. If the object was merely to keep the flock from perishing, this expense could be reduced at least one half.

Unless you can be patient, unless you are satisfied to reap your reward after your work is done, the same as in any other business, our advice to you is, let the breeding of poultry alone.—Reliable Poultry Journal.

Feathered Grain Buyers.

Western farmers who are anxiously looking about them for a way to dispose of a part of their corn, wheat and oats, ought not forget that they have a lot of grain buyers right at their homes which will pay them a better price than anyone in their market town. These grain buyers can furnish the best of reference as to their responsibility. They will pay the farmer full Chicago price and save him the hauling. They prefer to buy grain of the best quality, but will raise no serious objection if some of it is second and third grade. They will take anything that he has to offer, will generally pay him cash down, and will not cheat in weights. It is true that their facilities for handling the grain are limited, but if the farmer properly cultivates their acquaintance, learns to appreciate their value, and gives the right encouragement to them to set up business in his locality, they will be able to take care of no mean share of his crop. It is admitted that these buyers are a little peculiar in their manner of dealing. Some people are ready to affirm that they are cranky and unreliable, but that this is a slander is evidenced by the fact that those who have done the most business with them and understand them best, are their staunchest friends, and give the most positive assurance that they are sound to the core, and pay better prices than anybody. Some of them bid the grain up higher than others, but the worst of them will take it at a figure which will be out of sight of the best bid which can be obtained on the public market. If these buyers ever ask credit they are able to offer gilt edge security, and there will be no occasion for you to look up their standing in the commercial reports. The farmers of the country are losing a lot of money by not having more intimate and extended business relations with these buyers. Every farmer professes to have some acquaintance with them, but not one farmer in a hundred fully comprehends what they are capable of doing for him.

The business of the hen is about the only thing on the farm that has not been affected by the hard times. The farmer is working himself half to death to grow grain which hardly pays for the rent of the land. The price of catf and hogs has dropped so low that it

makes the farmer tired to think of it. Horses which would have brought \$50 five or six years ago are being led out and killed because they cannot be given away. But the hen is still holding down her job at the old wages. Tariff mysteries and free silver heresies make no impression upon her. Board of trade and wall street speculators cannot "corner" her, and the secret of her little patent right is secure from successful infringement. The fussy old garden-destroying hen is all right, and she is about the only thing on the farm which has kept all right during the long period of depression which has so severely tried the souls of the farmers.

Should Be Well Fed.

The hen which is given a brood of chicks to rear should be liberally fed. If she is confined to a small coop give her a good feed of shelled corn twice a day. This she will eat, knowing that it is something which the chicks cannot make use of. If it is intended for her to subsist upon the mixed feed considered proper for the chicks, she will not eat any of it until she is driven to it by extreme hunger, and the feed will lie about in the coop until spoiled, and be a means of disease to the brood. The better condition the hen is kept in the sooner she will wean her flock and go to laying again. The chicks are well off without the hen any time after they are a month old. This of course refers to chicks hatched in May or June. The weather is then mild, and they do not need the protection the hen gives them from the cold. A well fed hen will wean her chicks at from a month to six weeks old, and will lay a good dozen of eggs within the twenty days immediately following.

A Tent For \$3.00.

The price of the lawn tent elsewhere advertised in these columns has been reduced to \$3.00. These tents are made of the very best material, and with anything like proper handling, they will stand years of wear. They are an ornament to the lawn, and as an out door play house for children during the hot weather of summer, they are perfection itself. We can recommend the company which manufactures this tent as a most pleasant one to do business with.

No Hawks Need Apply.

Let out the contract for fighting off

the hawks to the king birds. They can beat you out of sight at that kind of a job. There will be no hawks sailing overhead about your premises if you have allowed a pair of king birds to gain a residence in your vicinity. Give them every encouragement to come and live with you. The poultryman who would make war upon the king birds is not to be pitied if the hawks make a dinner off his flock every day in the year.

On the Happy Family Idea.

Cats are a necessity about premises where poultry is kept, but how to have cats which will not develop an insatiable appetite for spring chicken is the question. Try hatching your cats and chickens about the same time, and have them grow up together in youthful companionship. Keep the mamma cat in the meantime well fed, or in her anxiety to do her duty by the kittens she may conclude that spring chicken is none to good for them, and will thereby teach them a bad habit which they would not fall into of themselves. Kittens which see young chickens about from the time that they first get their eyes open, that frequently eat with them out of the same dish, are not likely to do them any harm, at least until they reach advanced life, and learn this with other bad habits which come with old age.

Marketing.

Some people have the knack of always finding the best market for anything they have to sell. Where another takes what he can get, and is often troubled to dispose of his property at any price, those people appear to always stumble upon the right market, and let go at exactly the right moment. They are looked upon as very lucky people by the other class, when the truth of the matter is that there is no luck about it. Their so called lucky sales are simply the result of wise forethought and good common sense. It is because they have no faith in luck that they succeed in getting the cream instead of the skim milk of trade. The luck is always with those who have to content themselves with the lower prices, and a very poor kind of luck it is.

We will mail a Philadelphia poultry marker to any one sending us three subscribers at 25 cents each.

The Broody Hens.

It hardly pays to "break up" the setting hen. If the hatching season is past, and you do not care for any more chicks, allow her to set her 3 weeks anyway, without any eggs under her. You will not lose anything thereby. It has been pretty clearly proven that the hen that sets and rears a brood of chicks will lay no less eggs in the course of the year than another of the same breed that is not allowed to follow the promptings of this instinct. The eggs that are thus secured at the time are deducted from the sum total for the year.

Of course it is somewhat trying to the patience to see the nests of the poultry house filled with broody hens during the latter part of the summer. It looks like a needless waste of time, and the poultryman is not always proof against the temptation to snatch the clucking crowd off the nests with more energy than gentleness. If some of them are inclined to be savage, and make vicious pecks at the hand every time it is introduced into the nest, the owner must be a model of good nature if he does not sometimes fight back.

But there is nothing gained by preventing these broody hens from setting. If they are not disturbed they will be the better for it as layers next winter, and will be in a more thrifty condition. Nature intended it to be this way, and you can't go against nature to any great extent without being reminded that you have undertaken a larger contract than you can manage.

The poultry house which is occupied by a lot of broody hens is in great danger of becoming infested with lice, and it must receive the very best attention if this is to be prevented. A broody hen is a regular louse factory, and when one has twenty or more such factories running on full time he needs to exercise the utmost vigilance in order to escape serious trouble from this source

Millet Seed for Chicks.

Millet seed appears to be growing in favor as a feed for chicks. Many well known breeders have adopted it to the exclusion of all mashes, bread crumbs, or mixed feed of whatever kind. These people claim that a larger per cent of the chicks can be saved if fed on millet seed, wheat and dry oat meal, than by means of any other system of feeding. It is unquestionably true that most people give too much soft feed, but it will

be a new experience to most of us to put the chicks entirely on a ration of whole grain. And yet it may be true that the results would be better. Our personal acquaintance extends to at least one breeder who adopted that plan three years ago, and the results have been so satisfactory that he will closely adhere to it in future. It used to be the universal rule to depend mainly upon raw corn meal for feeding the chicks, and it required a great deal of argument to convince people that that was about the worst thing that could be given the youngsters. But no well informed poultryman feeds raw corn meal at this day, or corn meal in any form, except at infrequent intervals, and in very sparing amount. Present indications go to show that the feeding of doughy mixtures of any kind has been a mistake, and that cracked or whole grain will furnish a safe escape from many of the troubles which have heretofore been the terror of the poultryman.

Shade Is a Necessity.

If one expects the best of success with his young chicks, he must see to it that they have shade from the sun during the hot weather other than what is provided by the nursery coops. It is evident that the importance of this matter is not fully appreciated by many poultry breeders, as the young stock is often seen in a closely fenced lot where there is not a tree or a bush of any kind to give them shelter from the scorching rays of the sun. The fact that they will huddle in every little shadow that happens to fall within the inclosure, and show the greatest reluctance to exposing themselves in the open during the middle of the day, fails to make their owner understand that this is a petition to him for shade, and that he will be the loser if he does not heed the appeal.

Ordinarily there is no lack of shade about the farm houses in the long settled states of the east, but the newly made home on the prairies of the west is usually destitute of tree or shrub which could shield a flock of fowls from the sun. Where this is the case, a patch of sunflowers planted in the spring will give the required protection by the time the summer is far enough advanced to make it necessary, or a patch of corn will in a measure answer the same purpose. A rank growth of

tall weeds in some corner of the inclosure will be a favorite resort of the chicks during the heat of the day, but for obvious reasons, either of the other methods is to be preferred to this. A little forethought will enable the owner to in some way to furnish the needed shelter. And, as we said at the beginning, unless something of this kind is done the attempt to rear poultry will be attended with considerable disappointment and loss. Those who lightly value the importance of shade at the beginning of their career as keepers of poultry, will undergo a change of mind with regard to the matter as they gain in experience.

Truly a Delight.

The Woman's Delight Steam Washer is no less a delight to the men who are in the habit of doing the heavy work on the old style washing machine, or who want to spare the women of their household such severe labor. There is no heavy work connected with operating this machine, and no other machine will do the work with the same thoroughness, or with as little injury to the clothing. This is not a paid advertisement. It is written by the editor of the MESSENGER in whose family one of these machines has been in regular use for four years. We could not say anything in favor of it which would be an exaggeration.

"Bean's Buffs"

Won 50 premiums

At Anoka December 20, to 25, 1895, Holden, Judge, and are not striving for business on the record of birds long dead and gone.

75 Fine Birds for Sale. 75

At reasonable prices. Try us. A full line of

Poultry Supplies

And Specialties of all kinds at Rock Bottom Prices. Terms cash. Circular and price list free if you mention the MESSENGER.

Anoka Buff Poultry Yards.

Lock Box 72.

ANOKA, MINN.

Kerosene and Lard.

This writer is willing to admit that he is old fashioned enough to have a liking for kerosene and lard as a remedy for lice on chicks after the latter have reached a month old. In spite of the new fangled insect powders, and liquid lice killers, we cannot quite persuade ourself to entirely give up this old stand-by of our grandmothers. It is a tedious job to apply it, but then it gets there so "unanimously." When we have thus treated a brood of chicks, we know to a certainty that the lice are thoroughly done for in that quarter. Not one of the big bellied leeches is left. And how the chicks straighten out, and caper about, and grow after this treatment.

Kerosene and lard does not endanger the lives of the chicks, if the mixture is properly made and applied before the lice have become numerous enough to perceptibly weaken them. The mistake which is often made is the spreading of it on too thickly, leaving a heavy coating of the sticky mass all over the body of the chick. It should be applied as lightly as possible, the object being merely to give the scent of the kerosene to every part of the feathers. This is all that is required to settle the fate of the lice. It is not necessary to drown them in an ocean of grease.

We are not arguing against the insect powders and liquid lice killers. Certainly nobody would want to under-rate their value. But some people do not want to buy these things, and some may still hold on to the idea that kerosene and lard is not yet quite out of date, and that they can still make an effective warfare upon the lice with this old time weapon. There is no doubt of the fact that these people are in the right. They could save themselves trouble by using the other remedies in connection, but if they don't mind the bother they can do a first-class job by means of the kerosene and lard alone.

However conveniently your kitchen may be fitted up, you will admit the value of a Wood's Kitchen Cabinet when you fully understand what it is. At least write to the company, and have them send you a description of this household necessity. You cannot furnish the kitchen as well with anything else that you can buy or make.

Get Rid of the Old Stock.

It is advisable to get rid of the old hens before the market becomes flooded with young stock. The two and three-year-old hens ought to be in prime condition now, and it is poor management to keep them till fall merely for the purpose of securing the eggs they will lay in the interval. They will begin to moult in August and September, and the bedraggled appearance which they will then present will to some extent affect their market value. The winter will be well advanced before the moulting process will have been completed, and in the meantime they will lay very few eggs. If one has a few old favorites which he is holding on to for a special purpose, let him keep them as long as he can make use of them in that manner, but the bulk of the stock should be disposed of not later than at two years old, and the best time to sell is in July. Prices are usually better about the first of March, but at that time the most of the hens are usually needed for the production of eggs and the rearing of broods.

As the cost of keeping the hens during the summer is practically nothing, people are much inclined to hold on to them until the approach of cold weather, arguing that all that they thereby obtain in the way of eggs is so much clear gain. They do not consider that the eggs do not make up for the lower price which they are then compelled to accept for them. The market is always glutted with young stock at this time, and old hens are greatly at a discount.

A breeder of long experience, for whose judgement we have great respect, recently told the writer that he believed three fourths the troubles in the poultry house during the winter were due to the presence of old birds. With his houses filled with young stock he could confidently calculate upon getting through the winter without any serious disease, but he never felt safe from trouble of this kind if the flock was made up in large part of birds of three years old and over. In his opinion the discouragements which so many people complain of would be at an end if they would devote some fine day to cutting off the heads of all the fowls in their flock that could not furnish absolute proof of being under two years old. Old fowls are continually contracting disease and spreading it through the flock.

Observe the general thrifty condition of the hen at the time she weans her brood, and the regularity with which she deposits her egg in the nesting box. Take note of these things, and make comparison with the hens which have not been allowed to set, and try and figure out how much you have been paid for all the trouble and worry you have been to in "breaking up" the setting hens.

THE Leghorn Home,

M RRIAM PARK, MINN.

S. C. W. **Leghorns** S. C. B.
EXCLUSIVELY.

Winners wherever shown. Send for circular No. 2.

Leghorn Incubator.

Our Own Make.

Constructed on the latest and Most Scientific Principles. Guaranteed to do the work or money refunded. Most simple and accurate regulator of heat yet invented. Made, used and sold by practical poultrymen. Send for Circular No. 21.

Agents Wanted.**BLACK Langshans,**
and **B. Fly. ROCKS.**

Langshan cockerels heading pen score 94 and 94½ points by Emry.

Langshan Eggs \$1.25 per sitting.
Fly. Rock " \$1.00

A Sixty per cent hatch guaranteed or order refilled free of cost.

M. PARROTT.

Aurelia, Iowa.



THE COMET
SPRAY & FORCE
PUMP

ASPRAYER
& HAND PUMP COMBINED.
ALL BRASS FOR \$2.50.

THOUSANDS IN USE.
SELLS ON SIGHT. DOUBLE ACTING.
THROWS WATER 60 FEET.
BOOK OF
SPRAYING RECIPES FREE
EVERY FARMER & FRUIT GROWER
SHOULD SEND FOR CATALOGUE.
I CAN INTEREST YOU LIVE AGENTS WANTED
H. B. RUSLER MFR.
JOHNSTOWN OHIO, U.S.A.

They Should Have Grass.

BY H. S. BRIGGS, NEWARK, O.

If your eggs hatched poorly this year, and you are at a loss to account for the fact, suppose you just guess that it was because the hens were deprived of green food—that is, if the hens were closely yarded and had no chance to get at the early grass. We have arrived at the belief that there is no one thing connected with the treatment of the breeding fowls that has so much to do with fertile or infertile eggs as green food in the spring of the year. Not to make provision for something of this kind appears to us to be a most serious oversight by the poultryman who expects a reasonable per cent of the eggs to hatch. Green bone, meat scraps, clean quarters, judicious matings, are all important; but all of these things may fail to produce eggs which under ordinary conditions will hatch. And yet this trouble may end with the introduction of green food in the shape of grass or vegetables. Such food at this time of year is a necessity. No one should try to get along without it. The artificial conditions under which domestic fowls are kept have failed to change their nature to an extent that enables them to be deprived of it and be at their best.

This spring one of the best qualified breeders of our acquaintance failed to get one egg to hatch out of a dozen until he opened the gates of his breeding yards and turned his birds loose in an adjoining lot. The eggs which were gathered two weeks later produced as large a per cent of chicks as might be expected under the most favorable circumstances. In our own case fifty eggs which were gathered from a breeding pen of eight pullets and one cock produced seven chicks. Up to that time no green food had been given to the birds, being confined to a ration of mixed grain and green bone. We now begun emptying a pailful of finely chopped grass into the pen twice a day. Two weeks later we commenced saving the eggs, and when we had obtained twenty we put them under two hens. The result was nineteen strong chicks. The next twenty-six eggs produced twenty-four living chicks and one crushed in the shell. There was no other change made in the treatment of the flock. They were kept in the same quarters, which by the way was a rath-

er confined run, and fed precisely as before, with the exception of the grass. We cannot avoid giving the credit of the change to the grass.

Early this fall we shall sow rye where the fowls of each pen will have access to it in the spring. We will thus provide green food for the hens as early as March, and we expect to be well paid for this trouble. A portion of the rye will be sowed in corn in September, and cultivated in with a one-horse plow. It will require some extra temporary fencing to provide each breeding pen a pasture of this kind, and keep the various flocks separate, but we are so thoroughly convinced of the importance of something of this kind, that we shall not in the future stop at any expense which may be required to obtain it.

Nesting Material.

From time to time we notice writers on poultry matters commenting on the best materials, in their estimation, for nests, some advising the use of spent tan, of sawdust, of fine chips, of cut hay or straw, etc., but we would advise our readers to be careful how they use the above, for they make the very best possible retreats for vermin of all kinds which so worry and distress the poultry. Any material which soon packs down closely in the nest, is not the proper thing to be used as a nesting material. Of course we do not want a harsh nest, made of coarse straw or hay, but take some straw which has been run through the machine in threshing out the grain; still further break it up in the hands, and then make a good nest with it. Hay, too, makes a very good nest. If it is coarse, break it up the same as you should coarse straw, although meadow hay makes a most excellent nest. Leaves may do for nests, but they will, when damp, pack down solidly, while they will, when dry, slip around so as to be anything but desirable. In making nests, make good, deep ones, but do not fill them so full as to endanger the eggs falling on the floor. —American Poultry Journal.

It Is Not Cholera.

Chicken cholera invariably kills inside of forty-eight hours. Fowls suffering with a severe diarrhoea are too often supposed to have the cholera. This mistake is especially likely to be made if a number in the same yard are afflicted in this way at the same time.

Such a trouble is often nothing more than internal inflammation, and altogether distinct from cholera. It is brought on by indigestion, the result of impure food, or of one kind of food to which the flock has been too long confined. A complete change in the plan of feeding will often cause the disease to entirely disappear at the end of a week. Chicken cholera proper is an uncommon disease. Not one-half the cases which are so reported are in reality that fatal malady.

The poultryman who has a Bull Terrier on his premises will not be troubled with rats, skunks, chicken-killing cats, or any other four footed enemies anywhere near the size of the terrier. One of these dogs is a valuable possession to any poultryman. He will more than earn his living whether the poultry yards are in the town or country. Bull Terriers in their purity can be obtained at the Fashion Kennels, Hawarden, Iowa, and any questions concerning the animals will be cheerfully answered by the proprietors.

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Of Poultry and prices of poultry. Prices of poultry in pairs and trios, and prices of eggs per sitting.

**Symptoms and Cure
For all Known Poultry Diseases.**

All kinds of Poultry Supplies at very low prices. This large book sent to any address for 15 cents.

E. H. RODHAM, Darlington, Wis.

**CURES
CAROWE Roup,**

In poultry. Price 50 cents. Walter Kirby & Co., Marietta, Ohio.

FOR SALE

Black and Golden Wyandottes, Blk Minorcas, Andalusians, Leghorns, W. Cochins, Pigeons.

Grand View Poultry Yards,
DUBUQUE, IOWA.

The Egg Trade.

The individual who for the first time has had a setting of eggs shipped to him from a point a hundred miles or more distant, and hasn't a full dozen of chicks to show as the result of the venture, is now being heard from. If he is as unreasonable as some people with whom we have had business relations of this nature, he is evincing much disappointment over his poor hatch, and is charging the seller with things which if true would make him hate himself to death. It is evidently a healing balm to the wounded feelings of this deeply wronged person to sharpen a very stout stick and go for the hide of the untrustworthy breeder with awful prods. And the pain to the offending party is no less keenly felt because the punishment is inflicted through the medium of pen and ink. Many of these breeders will go out of the business simply to escape receiving such letters in future. They prefer to lose whatever profits may accrue from it rather than continue to suffer this sort of abuse.

Shipping eggs for hatching purposes is a perfectly legitimate business, and those who are engaged in it are as a class as careful to give their patrons the worth of their money as are the people of any other occupation. If a large proportion of those who send for eggs are unacquainted with the risks and uncertainties attending such a purchase, it is not the fault of the breeder. It should be sufficient for him to know that people who have had the widest experience in this line know what to expect, or rather what not to expect, when they make a purchase of this character, and that his integrity will not be questioned by those who are best qualified to pass upon the transaction with reason and intelligence. If any one is doing his level best to carry on his poultry business honestly, and has made himself competent for his work by reading, study and observation, he can afford to be perfectly indifferent to such criticisms as have been above alluded to. There is no occasion for him to give up his business at the demand of people who are not in a position to know when they are well treated.

Send us three subscribers at 25 cents each, and we will send you the best poultry marker that is made, free.

Charge It to Lice.

When the chicks begin to droop, and stand about in a dejected, lifeless way, in the absence of positive evidence to the contrary, it is usually safe to conclude that they are troubled with lice. When the lice have had start enough to produce this effect the best remedies that can be employed will in a large per cent of the cases fail to save the life of the chick, as it is too far weakened to recover even though freed from the torment which has reduced it to this condition. However industriously one may have worked to keep the premises clear of lice, it is best to go on the presumption that the chicks will become infested with them to a greater or less extent unless they are regularly subjected to some treatment for keeping them free from the pests.

Late Hatching.

The late hatched chick is considerably better than no chick at all, and a number of well known breeders have recently declared that fact. But for all that, there is such a thing as hatching him too late. As a rule it is not advisable to hatch after July 1st, unless one has a special object in view, and is well provided with the means for successfully carrying out his aims.

Gapes.

The Poultry Keeper recommends a teaspoonful of spirits of turpentine to a pint of corn meal as a remedy for gapes in chicks. If any of the chicks refuse to eat make a pill of the mixture and force it down the throat. The disease will in this manner be prevented from spreading through the flock, even if the treatment does not produce a cure in the cases of those already affected. Prominent writers on the subject of poultry do not hesitate to declare that chicks that are kept absolutely free from lice will never be troubled with gapes.

The Male Bird Can Go.

If the eggs are to be no longer used for hatching there is no earthly use in keeping the male birds around for the balance of the season. There will be no fewer eggs on account of their absence, and the eggs will keep better. Male birds no longer intended for use or for sale as breeders had better be disposed of now and made to give room for the young and growing stock.

Sow Turnips.

Sow turnips for the use of the fowls next winter. If you are scarce of ground use the space which has been occupied by the lettuce and the early radishes, or perhaps a few yards of ground can be found along the fence rows which is in danger of being grown up with weeds. Cooked turnips help to give the needed variety to the winter ration, and it is a very small garden patch in which room cannot be found to grow enough of them to supply a medium sized flock of fowls.

At Aurelia, Iowa, is published the Poultry Messenger at 25 cents a volume. It is carefully and honestly edited, and is well worth more money.—California Poultry Tribune.

Good Birds at Rock Bottom Prices.

Pure bred Black Langshans of both sexes. Cockerels \$1 each, pullets 50 cents. Also Light Brahma cockerels at same price. No better stock in Iowa. MRS. J. A. BOYNTON, Clarion, Wright county, Iowa.

LEGHORNS Rose Comb Brown EXCLUSIVELY.

My Leghorns have won and will win. 20 eggs for a dollar, packed light, shipped prompt. Circular free.

No. 10 Cures : **ROUP.** Warranted to. 50 cts a bottle

Bull Terriers, the Poultryman's dog. Fair and honest dealings.

FASHION KENNELS,
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T. C. Crepps,

—BREEDER OF—

Barred Plymouth Rocks Exclu'y.

Cockerels one dollar each, two for \$1.75. Eggs \$1.00 for 15; \$1.50 for 30.

T. C. CREPPS, Aurelia, Iowa

HALF PRICE

After June 10th we sell eggs from all our yards at HALF PRICE, (\$1 per 15.) Eggs will be from our best pens and handled with the same care early orders receive. Our breeds:

BARRED & WHITE PL. ROCKS, LT. BRAHMAS, LANGSHANS, BF. COCHINS, WHITE WYANDOTS, BROWN & BUFF LEGHORNS, PEKIN DUCKS.

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GEO. J. NISSLY, SALINE, MICH.

Bad Feed for Chicks.

Nothing worse can be fed to chicks than sour or mouldy bread. Bread crumbs in limited amount constitute a good feed for them, and bread several days old is preferable to that which is freshly baked; but it must not be mouldy or soured. Sometimes a "batch" of bread is spoiled in the hands of the reigning power in the kitchen as the result of bad flour, or of yeast cakes which have lost their sprightliness through old age. The bread is very heavy and pathetically "sad," but such a mishap is usually regarded as a wind-fall for the chicks, and the sodden mass is given to them in big chunks. Of course the youngsters devour it greedily, but in the course of a few days the owner will be wondering what is the matter with the chicks. They are dumpish, and seem to have lost all interest in life, and many of them have given up the struggle and permanently retired from business. This is regarded as a remarkable way for chicks to conduct themselves that have been bountifully fed on such nutritious food, but such is the usual result of giving them a treat like that above described. We could take that same bread and sicken a whole pen of mature fowls with it inside of three days, and slay the entire outfit at the end of a week. People need to know that such material is dangerous food for fowls of any kind, young or old. And yet it need not be wasted. Fed a little at a time in connection with whole grain, meat scraps, grass and clover hay, it will be a benefit to old fowls, but should never be given in any amount to young stock which is not fully half grown. Mouldy bread should not be fed to anything. We would hesitate even to give it to the pigs, though we do not profess to know anything about pigs.

Lice Killers--How to Use Them.

The most effective use to which the liquid lice killers can be put is cleaning the hens of vermin immediately after they have hatched their brood. The best care in the world cannot always prevent a setting hen from hatching some lice along with her chicks. Dust her, vaporize her, and overhaul her in any manner that you have a mind to; give her a perfectly clean nest in a clean place entirely separate from the balance of the fowls—do all this, and

yet in nine cases out of ten a lively brood of lice will show up about the same time that the chicks come out of the shells. It is always best to assume that lice are present at this time, and act accordingly. It is here that the liquid lice killers can be used with an effect which nothing else in the way of an insecticide will equal. As soon as the chicks are ready to remove from the nest, take the hen away and give her a treatment of the liquid. Keep her in the box fully two hours, and it will be better if she is made to stay there even longer than that. Three hours, or even four, will do her no harm, the brood in the meantime being removed from the nest and warmly covered. When they are returned to the hen she will at once take them under her wings, and her plumage being saturated with the fumes of the liquid, any lice which are on the chicks will meet with the same fate as those which were on the hen.

In the course of a week give the hen another fumigation, and continue to do this as long as the chicks remain with her. Of course this should only be done on warm, pleasant days, when the chicks will not suffer by the hen's absence. On such days we always have a hen or two shut up in the box which we keep for this purpose. This without the shadow of doubt the quickest and easiest way of getting rid of the lice that has ever been devised. Other methods are equally as thorough, but require an expenditure of much more time and labor.

Ex-President Harrison will discuss our national finances in an article on "The Secretary of the Treasury," which will appear in the August issue of The Ladies' Home Journal. He will tell briefly of the origin of our financial system; its expansion or development; how the nation raises its revenues, and disburses its moneys; and detail the faults of our system of financiering. Referring to the methods necessary to maintain our gold reserve General Harrison expresses himself with evident disapproval, and says that "the present situation would be absurd if it were not so serious." The increase or the diminution of the gold reserve, the ex-President asserts, powerfully affects every interest, and the "mending of existing conditions will be a problem for the wisest and strongest statesmanship.

The ex-President clearly intimates that successful financiering is extremely difficult by the present methods. Upon this point he says: "If fifty dollars would suffice to hold \$50,000,000 in the Treasury the Secretary could not

expend that small sum. He must stand by until the gold is gone, and then sell bonds to get it back. The result is that the banks and the brokers are often able to make play of the Treasury. A financial institution whose board transacts its business in public is at a disadvantage."

Ice Cream Now Made in a Minute.

I have an Ice Cream Freezer that will freeze cream perfectly in one minute; as it is such a wonder a crowd will always be around, so anyone can make from five to six dollars a day selling cream, and from ten to twenty dollars a day selling freezers, as people will always buy an article when it is demonstrated that they can make money by so doing. The cream is frozen instantly and is smooth and free from lumps. I have done so well myself and have friends succeeding so well that I felt it my duty to let others know of this opportunity, as I feel confident that any person in any locality can make money, as any person can sell cream and the freezer sells itself. J. F. Casey & Co., 1143 St. Charles St., St. Louis, Mo., will mail you complete instructions and will employ you on salary if you can give them your whole time.

K	ENTFIELD'S	Harmless TO FOWLS. Quick Results. Sure death to all kinds of
	LIQUID	
	LOUSE	
	KILLER	
Poultry Lice. Hundred are using it. Why don't you?		J. A. KENTFIELD, Morrison, Illinois,

Golden Wyandottes, AND Golden Seabright Bantams. EXCLUSIVELY.

Eggs in season, \$1.50 per setting; two settings \$2.50. Stock for sale.

Our Stock Has Won

Many prizes for our patrons. We have shown but once, a pen of Bantams at the Rockford, Illinois, show, January, 1896. We won four prizes on them, score 90½, 94, 93, 93, 93.

J. J. BEAN, Abbotsford, Wisconsin.

Standard Buff LEGHORNS

I want every person interested in this popular and beautiful breed to send for our large, 4-page '95 circular free, stamp accepted. I have one of the finest flocks, and prize winners, scoring 94½ by Felch to 93½ by Drevenstedt. Also Black Javas and Columbian Wyandottes. Get my circular sure.

GEO. S. BARNES,
Battle Creek, Michigan.

Can It Be Told?

A person is still occasionally found who believes that he has made some sort of a discovery which enables him to tell whether or not an egg is fertile without subjecting it to incubation. The following article on the subject shows the difficulties in the way of applying any test which will determine such a question with any degree of certainty. The article is copied from the California Poultry Tribune, and was written in answer to the query: "Is it possible to tell if an egg is fertile before incubation."

"It is not possible. We do not believe that an X-ray would show the matter up sufficiently strong to tell if the germ were pregnant. The little fleck of red no larger than the point of a pin imbedded or enveloped in a grayish speck about the sixteenth of an inch in diameter and of a more viscous nature than the albumen of the egg but resting in the yolk rather toward one side and end, constitutes the germ, and is found in the egg that is unimpregnated as surely as in the vitalized one; in fact it is as certain to be found as the yolk itself. But the presence of this germ must in no instance be regarded as evidence of vitalization of the egg. The fertilizing principle—the life-imparting force may be there, and must be present, in every complete egg; but every egg is not thus made perfect. The germinating principle lies in the spermatozoid, is essentially male, a microscopic motile, animalcular-like force which it is absolutely impossible to see without the aid of a strong instrument, and not then after it has entered the ovum or, what is generally called the germ. One drop of the spermatic fluid contains thousands of these motile forces, and when seen under a glass of 1000-magnifying power are no longer than a gnat's leg, and not greater in diameter, with head and thorax larger than the fast-tapering trunk, and which, when in motion, always goes forward and up.

Let the egg shell be regarded as the womb, the germ fleck and its areola the ovum, or egg proper, and the spermatozoid the fructifying principle, and you have the proper order of generating properties of all mammalia. Now, in all kindness, we ask how can it be thought possible to ascertain whether the life force from the spermatic fluid

has entered the germ when the knowledge must be sought through shell, then through albumen, and finally through germ-areola and its heart—the fleck mentioned—when it is remembered the spermatozoid can with difficulty be seen with no obstruction to impair the vision?"

What a Dollar Will Buy.

A dollar will now buy a setting of eggs which could not have been obtained a month or even ten days ago for less than two dollars. Eggs from any of the more popular standard breeds can now be had for that money. And these eggs, be it understood, may be from stock as good as the best. The chicks hatched from these eggs would be the wonder of many a locality where chickens are abundant, such as they are.

This dollar setting of eggs will produce a brood of chicks which at a year old will be worth at least ten dollars. There will be no difficulty whatever in getting that money for them if the owner will make it known that he has them for sale in quarters where such stock will be appreciated. It will not be a remarkable circumstance if a single bird in the brood would sell for half that money, for we are speaking of tip-top fowls, that are the product of years of careful selection, and represent the highest type of their breed.

Many of the best and most widely known breeders of the country sell eggs for just half price after the first of June. It is not claimed that the chicks hatched from these eggs will possess the same value as those hatched in April and the forepart of May. If they are of the larger breeds, they will not quite reach their growth before winter, and, perhaps, will never attain to standard weight; but in no other respect will they be inferior to the earlier broods. And their progeny will not be affected by this lack of weight, but will reach standard size if hatched in season. Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes may be hatched in June, and if kept in a perfectly healthy, growing condition, will come but very little short of attaining the required size the same season, unless the winter should set in unusually early. And as breeders next spring, there will be no practical difference between them and others that were hatched two months earlier. They will not be suitable for ex-

hibition at the early fall shows, but they will have all the valuable qualities of their breed, and if not subject to any other defect than that resulting from late hatching, they will be worth a dozen times over their cost to the owner. And if they are put on sale they will command a price which would amaze the individual who is in the habit of estimating the value of all chickens at about twenty-five cents.

There is no better evidence of a general misconception regarding the difference between thoroughbreds and scrubs than the fact that such a large number of people are willing to keep the latter when the opportunity is open to them for supplanting these comparatively worthless fowls by thoroughbreds at the small cost of a dollar. Considering the unanimity with which all of the best qualified breeders have registered their indorsement of the thoroughbreds, the pertinacity with which so many cling to the scrubs indicates a tardiness of intelligent apprehension upon this subject which is simply astounding.

Wasted Counsel.

The bad results of keeping too many breeds cannot be too strongly impressed upon those who are beginners in the poultry business. Those who have had an experience of a few years do not need to be warned against this danger, but the person who is just making his first unsteady steps in this direction, and has no practical knowledge of the difficulties before him, is always in danger of making this mistake. As a matter of fact it is of very little use to try to save beginners the loss resulting from this error. After all the argument and persuasion which can be employed upon them, at least nine out of ten will deliberately go contrary to the advice, and will not believe what is told them until the lesson is impressed upon them by costly experience. And yet old breeders, while knowing that their counsel in a large measure will be wasted, cannot feel that they are wholly discharging their duty unless they are constantly keeping this danger signal in view.

There is a good deal of the milk of human kindness in the hearts of breeders of thoroughbred poultry. We verily believe they possess less of the hide-bound selfishness which finds expression in secrecy and concealment than any other class of people. If one makes an important discovery he hastens to

give currency to it as far as the papers can carry it. He might keep it to himself and reap all the benefits, but that is not his way. He does his utmost to induce one who is new to the business to start right, and seeks by every means in his power to lead him away from the pit-falls into which he himself has had many a disastrous tumble. But the beginner treats all these good offices with contempt, and with the confidence born of ignorance, goes straight ahead at a two-forty gait until he runs up against something which knocks the conceit all out of him. Then he admits to himself that perhaps the man who has had an experience of twenty or forty years is in a position to tell him something about poultry keeping which he don't know. When these old poultry breeders tell the youngsters to keep clear of the dangers of encumbering themselves with too many breeds, they do not expect to do much good thereby. But they feel better for having given the advice. They at least have the comfort of knowing that those who decline to accept it will sometime meet with convincing proof of the fact that it was sound and good.

Full-Blood Poultry at the Fairs.

The fall fairs ought not to be neglected by breeders of full-blood poultry. The awards which are to be obtained there are not valuable, as a rule, but the fairs offer opportunities for teaching the masses things about thoroughbred poultry which cannot so easily be brought to their notice in any other way. The attendance at the winter poultry shows consists mainly of trained and experienced breeders, or of amateurs who have an ambition to become such; but everybody goes to the fairs. Villagers and farmers are there in full force. The majority of these people keep poultry, and only a small proportion of them know what good poultry is. If good specimens of the various breeds of full bloods were put on exhibition at the fairs it would give them a chance to see something in the poultry line which would open their eyes to the difference between standard bred fowls and scrubs. And many of them would then and there decide that they were forever done with the scrubs. It would be an object lesson more effective than columns of argument in the poultry papers, for only

a very small per cent of these people are readers of the poultry papers.

Breeders of high scoring poultry are averse to trusting their best birds to the mercies of the ordinary county fair. But they don't need to take their best birds there. The prize winners of the show room had better be kept at home until the time arrives for putting them on exhibition where their fine points will be appreciated, and receive the recognition that they are entitled to. Lower scoring birds will answer for the fairs, for the object is not to win records, but to educate. A misplaced feather or a twist of the comb will not stand in the way of the lesson which it is sought to impart in this school of instruction. Well developed, symmetrical birds, without conspicuous defect in shape or plumage, though not qualified to compete with the best in a first-class poultry show, will be creditable and forcible representatives of their breed in this capacity. Such birds, for example, as are often described as good breeding stock, but not recommended for exhibition where a high score is the object most desired. If all breeders of thoroughbred poultry would send a pen of fowls to their county fair they would thereby make business for themselves, and materially advance the interests of thoroughbred poultry culture in general.

The Drinking Fountain.

It does not appear that it ought to be necessary to caution people against using any kind of an open vessel for watering the chicks which they can get into with their feet, but wooden troughs and uncovered pans are so frequently adopted for this purpose, that it is evident that very many people are not familiar with the bad effects likely to result from their use. The water kept in such receptacles soon becomes filthy, and this is a sufficient objection to them even if there was no other reason for forbidding their use.

The newly hatched chick should never be allowed to get its feet wet, and the watering can should be of a pattern which makes it impossible to tread in it. The earthen fountains which are on the market are excellent, but every breeder of poultry cannot afford to buy them. But anyone can make a fountain at the cost of a few cents which will be the equal of anything that can be purchased. Take an old fruit can and

remove the top. Punch a nail hole or two an eighth of an inch from the edge to which the top was attached. Fill with water and cover with a saucer, invert the can, and the water will rise no higher in the saucer than the nail hole. Place as many of these cans in shady spots about the premises as may be needed, empty, clean out and fill twice a day, and you have as complete a watering arrangement as can be devised outside of a flowing current.

If one thinks he must use a wide mouthed vessel for this purpose let him loosely fit a piece of inch board inside of it, bore several half-inch auger holes in the board, and allow it to float on the surface. The board must be frequently cleaned, or else it will soon become so foul that the water will become badly polluted with the accumulation of filth upon its surface.

A Chance to Make Money.

I read how one of your subscribers made money selling Dishwashers: I ordered one, and my lady friends were charmed, as they hate dishwashing. My brother and I commenced selling them, and have made \$1,700 after paying all expenses. We don't canvas any. Our sales are all made at home. People come or send for them. The Mound City Dish Washer is the best Dishwasher on the market. Our business is increasing, and we are going to keep right on until we make ten thousand dollars. We sell from 5 to 15 machines every day, and some days more. The Dishwasher is lovely, every housekeeper wants one. There is no excuse to be poor when so much money can be made selling Dishwashers. For full particulars, address the Mound City Dishwasher Co., St. Louis, Mo. They will start you on the road to success.—A Reader.

Buff Plymouth Rocks
— Exclusively.

A Clean Sweep

At Jackson, Kalamazoo and Grand Rapids, Michigan, '95 and '96.

Choice Breeders For Sale.

My matings this season must produce grand results. My birds are remarkable for their large size, fine symmetry, and true Cochin color.

G. W. HAMM,
BATTLE CREEK, MICH.

The Poultry Messenger.

AND

Western Fruit-Grower.

Published the 15th of every month by
The Messenger Company,
AURELIA, IOWA.

Subscription Price, 25 Cents per Year

ADVERTISING RATES,--Sixty Cents per
Inch, each insertion.

It is a matter of the highest importance to breeders of thoroughbred poultry that the minds of the general public be disabused of the idea that a "chicken is a chicken"—that the degraded native that swaggers and cackles about the barnyards of three-fourths of the farms is not the standard by which all chickens should be valued. People have about stopped applying that sort of reasoning to cattle, hogs and sheep. When that most pestiferous of all domestic four-footed creatures, the bird dog of the village sport, dashes into the poultryman's flock of thoroughbreds, and kills a specimen which the owner would not exchange even up for the best hog or sheep in his county, it gives him a very tired feeling to be offered twenty-five cents in settlement of the loss. It is a rare circumstance for the owner of the brute to manifest even that much regard for what is right, but we are told that there are instances on record which are to that extent to his credit. Had the dog killed a \$2 sheep he would have been condemned to death, and the intelligent and discriminating populace would approve the righteousness of the sentence. The poultry industry immensely outranks that of sheep or swine raising, and it is high time that it was being given the same protection. The sporting propensity, with the bird dog attachment, would soon grow beautifully less, if compelled to make good the loss which it habitually and unblushingly inflicts upon other people.

Men sometimes get rich in the poultry business, but these same men would have made themselves rich at merchandising, farming, or in any other occupation in which they might have engaged. The men made themselves rich; the poultry business only furnished them the tools to work with.

The poultry business is not an employment suited to children. It calls for all the strength and sense of a full grown man, and far more of the latter than the average man possesses.

Every experienced breeder of poultry is in possession of some fact not known to the fraternity in general. The poultry interests of the country will go forward at a pace in proportion to the disposition of these people to make public property of what they know. What the editors of the poultry papers know constitutes a very small per cent of the knowledge for which the poultry keeping world is seeking.

The man who knows that incubator hatched chicks are worthless for breeding purposes has also found out that potatoes dug with a modern horse power potato digger are not as good for seed as those which are grubbed out in the old fashioned way with the hoe.

As an evidence of the popularity of the Buff Plymouth Rocks, one of our advertisers, Mr. G. W. Hamm, of Battle Creek, Michigan, writes us that he has this season sold over one hundred settings of eggs, and could have sold double that number if his flock had been large enough to enable him to fill the orders.

Only a very few people are qualified to fairly score their own fowls. Self interest is apt to blind them to the defects of their birds, or an over-weening conscientiousness will magnify them. For one to correctly know his own fowls is a good deal like knowing himself, and we have good authority for saying that the latter is a task which no man can discharge on lines of perfect fairness and impartiality.

We have received the new catalogue of W. M. Bean, of Anoka, Minnesota. The book contains forty pages, and is beautifully printed on a fine quality of buff paper. Besides a very complete description of Mr. Bean's specialties in the poultry line, it embraces a lengthy list of poultry supplies, such as are constantly kept in stock by the proprietor. This catalogue is a valuable article for any poultry keeper to have on hand, and our readers will not regret writing to Mr. Bean for a copy. They will find him an agreeable man to deal with.

Every once in a while the statement appears in print that Fanny Field has the unenviable distinction of being particularly friendly to the scrubs, and has espoused their cause in a manner which is a disparagement to the thoroughbreds. Is Fanny Field guilty of the charge? Does anybody know? In the monthly farm paper which regularly came to the home of our boyhood we remember reading the articles on poultry culture from the pen of Fanny Field, and we conceived the idea that she was the one person in the world who knew all that was worth knowing about chickens. It was these articles that planted the seeds of the hen fever which has taken fast hold of us in our later years. We don't hear so much about Fanny Field as formerly. Other, and, perhaps, abler writers have come upon the stage and elbowed her aside. It may be that by many she is looked upon as a back number. We do not know that she is yet among the living, but we still have a profound respect for her, and look upon it as a duty to raise a weak weapon in her defense. We do not believe that Fanny Field ever made such a declaration as that above quoted. She urged her readers to give more attention to poultry culture. She advised them to keep thoroughbreds, but if they thought they could not afford the thoroughbreds, to keep scrubs. She undertook to show that there was money even in scrubs, and what is more, she proved her case. We believe this is the extent of her sin against the thoroughbreds. If we are mistaken in this we would like to know it.

A man must have a love for work in order to succeed in the poultry business. This is much more important than a love for chickens. The indolent man will not succeed at any business calling for diligence and individual exertion, and poultry keeping is that kind of a business. Laziness is not an incurable disease, but it is a well-known fact that very few people so afflicted are willing to take the medicine by which they might get rid of it. Occasionally some fortunate circumstance puts the lazy man ahead, and places him in possession of a happy estate which he has not earned. But the prosperity of ninety-nine people out of a hundred is the reward of hard work, and these people all love work. They take more comfort in work than in idleness. The task that they are engaged at is not a matter of supreme importance except as it affords them opportunity for the full exercise of their powers. And they have no faith in the claim that nobody can succeed in any kind of employment but that for which they have a natural fondness.

Notes About Chickens and Fruits. And Answers to Queries.

Address all communications for this department to O. P. Greer, Bourbon, Indiana, and mention the MESSENGER.

Would you breed from a Barred Plymouth Rock cockerel with a black stripe down the center of beak, or pullets with spots on beak. How much would you cut a bird for dark stripe in beak and for spots on beak?—S. S. W.

It would be better to use as breeders Barred Plymouth Rocks with pure yellow beaks and legs. If you have a cockerel that is extra fine in symmetry, evenly and distinctly barred all over and down to the skin, a nice comb moderate in size, the beak with only a small dark stripe down the center, the balance being a good yellow, I would not hesitate to use him as a breeder provided I could not get another equally as good with pure yellow beak. I have a few times bred from pullets that had a few dark spots on beak, that were extra fine in other points. The cut for stripe in beak would be one-half to one out. If the pullet had only one or two dark spots on beak one-half out, three to five spots one out.

What is the cause and cure for scaly legs?—Chicago.

This question I have answered a number of times. Scaly legs or elephantis is caused by a small insect which can only be seen with a microscope. Fowls thus affected will spread the disease to chicks and other fowls. Coal oil will cure it. Sulphur and lard will cure it and leave the legs in better condition than coal oil.

What is understood about birds mating in the show room when there is often so much difference between the male and female?—J. W. T.

It means that they shall be of the general color of plumage except where unlike by reason of sex. Legs and beaks should match in general shade of color, combs should be single, rose, pea-comb &c. according to variety.

Is there any danger of breeds mixing if they run together after breeding season is over?—W. S. R.

I presume W. S. R. means mixing once, forever mixed. No, they can run together during fall and early winter provided they are separated in good time before next breeding season, say at least one month or six weeks. The manner of reproduction in fowls is different from that of mammals, and there

is no danger of one breed forever being crossed.

How would turnips do as a winter feed for poultry?—R. M.

Turnips are all right to feed poultry occasionally, but as a steady diet they are a failure. You would have to starve your fowls to get them to eat turnips as a main food.

Sunshine is better than medicine. Morning sun is best for poultry, while everything is frosty and chilly. Construct your poultry house with a few windows in the east. How many times have you seen your chicks and fowls huddle up in the morning, shivering with cold. In a few hours everything is warmed up, and your birds are out scratching and hunting for worms, and are not much interested in the south windows of your poultry house which you are always sure to have. If I was to build a poultry house and could have but one window in it, I would put it in the east and have it come down to the ground.

A fat old hen is a poor layer of eggs, and the longer she is kept the greater the expense. Look over your flock and sell all such specimens before the moulting season begins. In fact cull out all the fowls you do not expect to breed next season, except birds you are expecting to sell for fancy prices.

I have subscribed for 29 poultry papers since July, 1894, but for practical information the MESSENGER takes first prize.—F. E. Coleman, Manchester Green, Conn.

New and Interesting.

The Reliable Poultry Journal, published at Quincy, Illinois, has undertaken the expensive and laborious task of illustrating all the standard breeds of poultry, the illustrations to be furnished by that incomparable artist, Franklane L. Sewell, and comments on all drawings to be made by the leading poultry judges and foremost breeders of America. The good work is begun in the July number, which contains a magnificent full-page etching of a Barred Plymouth Rock male, accompanied by the terse comments of no less than fifty-five well-known judges and breeders of Plymouth Rocks. This matter will be found deeply interesting, and instructive to a high degree. The July number of Reliable Poultry Journal also contains much other interesting, valuable, up-to-date, pertinent matter.

Copy of the Reliable Poultry Journal will be sent cheerfully to any address on request. Drop them a postal card; they'll do the rest.

BREEDERS CARDS.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS. Cockerels \$1 each; pullets 75 cts. Eggs 4 cts each. A. M. Chamberlain, Aurelia, Iowa.

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SILVER SPANGLED HAMBURGS exclusively. Be sure and send for my illustrated circular—it is free. W. F. Metz, Ionia, Michigan.

PANSY POULTRY FARM, PANSY, Pa. Thirteen varieties of land and water fowls. Send stamp for circular.

MRS. M. A. SMITH, GILMAN, Iowa., has gilt edge stock of Black and White Langshans. Egg circular free.

GREAT BIG LIGHT BRAHMAS, Eggs and stock for sale in season at hard time prices. Our stock will suit you. L. M. Rowe, Galva, Iowa.

WHITE FACED BLK. SPANISH. I have bred them for 32 years. Eggs \$2 per 13. Discount on larger quantity. Circular and my photograph free. John Bennett, Sunman, Ripley County, Indiana.

OUR WAY WITH CURRANTS.

The markets demand a large red currant, and this practically limits the question of variety to three, Fay, Cherry and Versailles. If the currant rows are only one way, make the distance 6 feet by 3½ feet. If the rows are both ways put the distance 5 feet. Whether one or two year old plants are used for setting, have them well rooted and strong. In no case set roots more than two years old. Set the roots as early in the spring as it is possible to work the land.

All old bearing bushes should be cleaned out, and given a coarse manure mulch in the fall. The cultivation in currants should be shallow, not over three inches deep. The currant has a mass of fibrous roots near the surface, and deep plowing may do serious injury. The best fertilizers are a stable manure mulch, a shovelfull to a bush in late fall or early winter, and a sprinkling of muriate of potash the first week in April.

As to pruning, if the new growth is, as it should be, from a foot to two and a half feet long, cut back, as soon as the leaves fall, one-half of the new wood. Old bushes will need thinning out the old canes. This can be done in early spring.

The first crop of currant worms appears soon after the fruit is in blossom. Kill by a Paris Green solution, 1 pound to 200 gallons of water. Sprinkle every bush you have. If any worms appear when the fruit is two-thirds grown, use white hellebore, either in solution or as a thin paste mixed with flour.—Commercial Fruit Grower.

Green's Fruit Grower: After the first season, blackberries should never have their roots injured by deep cultivation. They naturally root very near the surface, and these roots should not be disturbed. If the plant be kept busy all summer repairing damages it will be in no condition to endure a hard winter.

Late cultivation may be injurious to the apple orchard by inducing a late growth. At all events, it can be of small utility when the tree begins to mature and rains become frequent. This season of respite gives the grower the opportunity of raising a green manure, and of adding fertility to his land at trifling expense and with no harm to his trees.



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Raw Bone has been proven by analysis to contain every part of an egg—White, Yolk and Shell. The lime of oyster shell furnishes shell material. The granulated size is for adult fowls; the meal is for chicks, and mixed with soft food. For

Circular explaining benefit and how to feed it, and prices on lots of 100 lbs or more, delivered, freight paid at your railroad station, address

Fitch Fertilizer Works, Bay City, Mich.

Do You

Ever stop to think how few there are engaged in poultry keeping as a business who ever make a success of it? A fancier who has a flock of thoroughbreds as a hobby is successful if he only get a pleasure for his pains. He keeps hens. It is one thing to

Keep Hens

And another to make hens keep you. Sickness in the fowls and mortality among the broods causes many failures. These, traced to their source, would bring up among vermin. There's a breed of lice for all sizes and conditions of chickenhood to fowldom, which in addition to destroying life and vitality, worry their victims worse than the "Seven Years Itch;"

And Lice?

Must be kept at a distance. Lambert's "Death to Lice" is offered to you because it does the work quickly, cheaply and well; if it don't, send it back and get your money. It is to my interest to to make it as good as possible, and I do.

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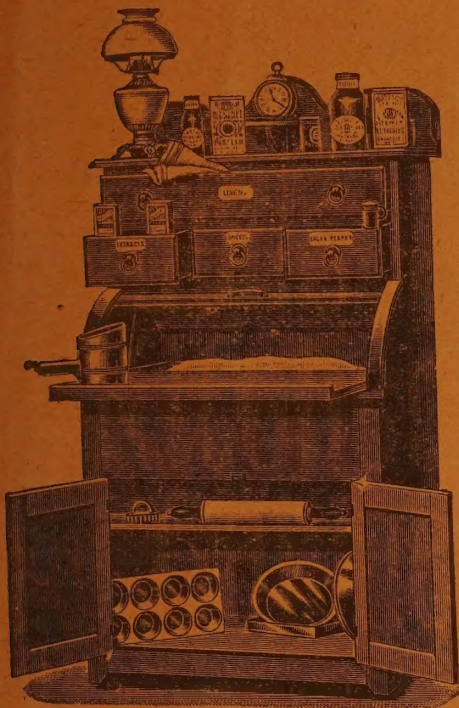
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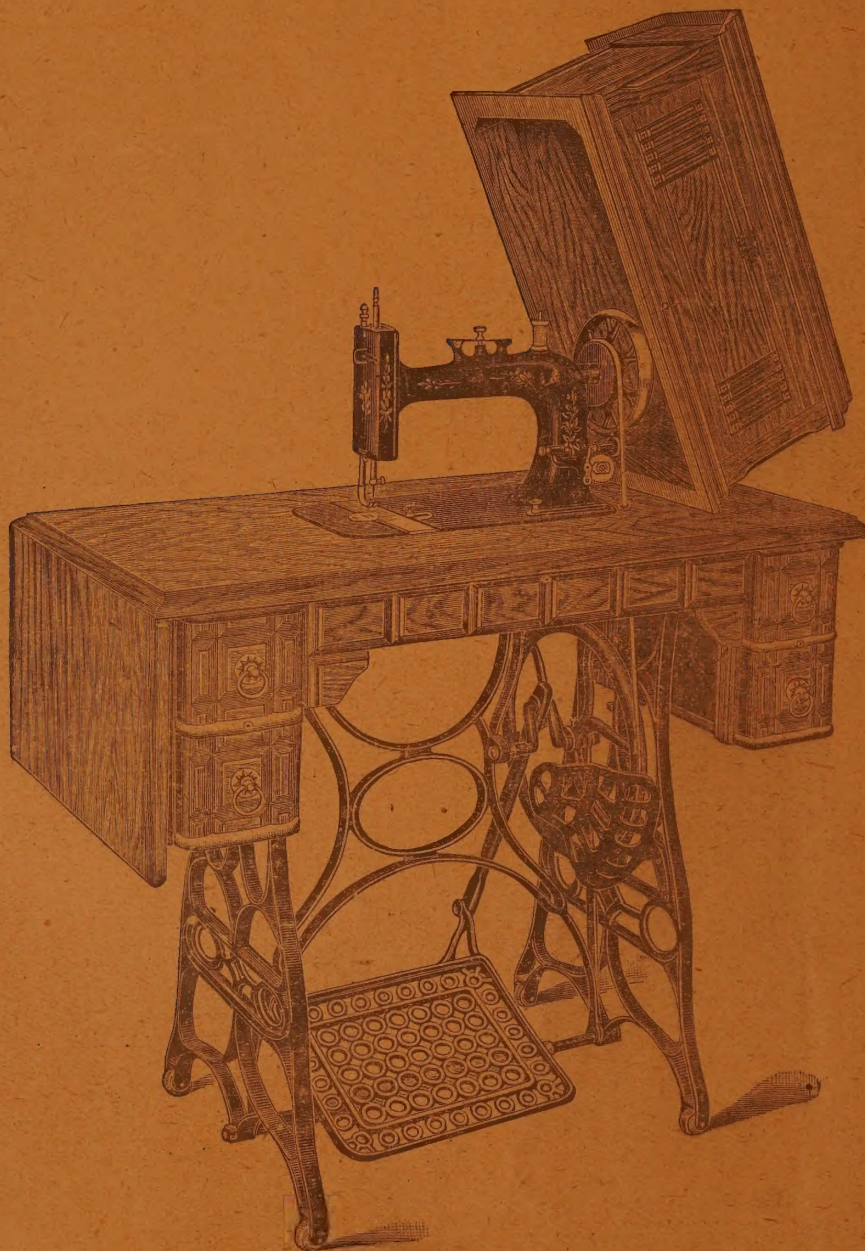
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